

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Of claims 1-64, claims 1-27, 30-33, 36, 38-44 and 47-64 were rejected. Claims 28, 29, 34, 35, 37, 45 and 46 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The claims have been amended and new claims added as noted above.

All currently pending claims include an objected to claim and all of the limitations of any intervening claims according to the following correspondence chart:

Claim #	Incorporates Claim #s
25	25, 26, 28
41	41, 45
65	25, 26, 33, 34
72	25, 35
79	25, 26, 36, 37

Claim cancellations were made due to incorporation into existing claims as indicated in the correspondence chart above. Claim cancellations and claim amendments were made solely for the purposes of furthering prosecution and were not made in relation to any art cited by the Examiner.

Claim 57 was objected to because of an informality. Claim 57 has been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application.

Claims 1-5, 15-17, 23-27, 33, 36, 38-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hart et al. 6,099,553.

Claims 1-5, 15-17, 23-24 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application. Claim 25 has been amended as noted above so this rejection is now moot in point. Applicants believe claim 25 is allowable along with claims 27, 38, 40 which depend therefrom. Claims 26, 33, 36 have been canceled due to incorporation into existing claims.

Claims 1-17, 20, 23, 24, 41-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mariant et al. 5,639,277.

Claims 1-17, 20, 23, 24 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application. Claim 41 has been amended as noted above so this rejection is now moot in point. Applicants believe claim 41 is allowable along with claims 42-44 which depend therefrom.

Claims 1-9, 14-17, 19-24, 41-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schaefer et al. 2002/0107534.

Claims 1-9, 14-17, 19-24 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application. Claim 41 has been amended as noted above so this rejection is now moot in point. Applicants believe claim 41 is allowable along with claims 42-44 which depend therefrom.

Claims 30-32 and 58-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hart, et al. '553 in view of Gibson 6,063,106.

Claims 30-32 depend from claim 25 which has been amended as noted above so this rejection is now moot in point. Applicants believe claims 30-32 are allowable. Claims 58-60 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application.

Claims 58-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaefer et al. 2002/0107534 in view of Gibson 6,063,106.

Claims 58-59 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application.

Claims 19, 58-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mariant et al. '277 in view of Gibson 6,063,106.

Claims 19, 58-59 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application.

Claims 47-57 and 61-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moser et al. 5,725,556 in view of Damarati 2003/0130669.

Claims 47-57 and 61-64 have been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaefer et al. 2002/0107534 or Mariant et al. '277 in view of Engelson 5,944,733.

Claim 18 has been canceled without prejudice for filing in a later application.

Appl. No. 10/087,004
Amdt. dated January 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of 12/2/2004

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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